

From: Bob Petolillo
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 11:35am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

It's time for the government to back off of private lawsuits against businesses and to stop legislating private commerce as much as it is.

The role of government should be to provide NECESSARY regulation of private commerce. We have gone WAY BEYOND that role in trying to legislate equality and/or fairness into private industry. The government bureaucracy is in no way qualified to judge the effects of legislation on the citizens and their economy and has already caused a great deal of damage to the private sector with its extensive meddling.

Lawsuits and legislation targetted against legitimate enterprises like tobacco companies (as disgusting as cigarettes are), gun manufacturers, Microsoft, and many others are not the role of our government. Continued abuse of legislative and executive power is only going to continue to erode the faith of the citizens in our government and cause more divisiveness and discontent that is already out there.

Un-neccessary governmental interference and gross fiscal irresponsibility have damaged this country greatly. In the latter half of the twentieth century our culture has gone a long ways toward becoming a 'third-world' country due, in large part, to out-of-control actions by our legislature and the government bureaucracy. We have a long way to go still, but I shudder to think about the future my children may have to deal with. Please re-think your position on the role of government and let's get back to the basics of running the government, not running the people and industry in it.

Sincerely;

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